

# RESOLUTIONS

*To be proposed by MR. ERMATINGER, on Wednesday, 23rd June, 1847.*

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1. *Resolved*,—That this House views with apprehension the difficult situation in which the Trade and Commerce of this Province will be placed by the policy of the Imperial Government in withdrawing from the productive labour of its inhabitants, prospectively, all protection; thereby exposing our Agriculturists to an unequal competition with the United States in the staple articles of our trade.

2. *Resolved*,—That this abandonment of the protective policy of England towards her Colonies in general, and this Colony in particular, cannot, in the opinion of this House, operate otherwise than injuriously on the Trade and prosperity thereof; affording at the same time no corresponding benefit to our fellow subjects in Great Britain.

3. *Resolved*,—That the construction of the St. Lawrence and other costly Canals, for which Canada obtained a loan, guaranteed by the British Government, of more than £1,500,000 Sterling, was undertaken in the confident expectation that we should continue to enjoy in the British Markets, a preference for our Products, over those of Foreign Nations.

4. *Resolved*,—That one great advantage expected to be derived from the large expenditure incurred in constructing these Canals was, that the facilities thus afforded would enable us to acquire a great portion of the Carrying Trade of the Western States of America, but that this advantage would be entirely surrendered to an enterprising rival nation, by the adoption of such a change in the Imperial Navigation Laws, as would render the free navigation of the St. Lawrence a matter of necessity.

5. *Resolved*,—That this Province contains the elements for carrying on an extended and prosperous trade, if based upon the industry of its inhabitants; the fertility of its soil, the immensity of its forests, and the great extent of its inland navigation, all concur in pointing out Canada as one of the most valuable appendages of the British Crown; susceptible of affording profitable employment to a very large portion of the redundant population of the Mother Country, of furnishing the means of Ship-building to an unlimited extent, and of carrying on a valuable trade through its internal navigation; but that the extension of the principles of free trade would, in the opinion of this House, tend to divert the Commerce of this Province to the United States, and ultimately endanger its connexion with the British Crown.

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6. *Resolved*,—That this House duly appreciates the Act of the Imperial Government, 9th and 10th Victoria, chapter 94, conferring upon this Colony, with other British Possessions, the power to reduce or repeal certain Duties of Customs, but is nevertheless of opinion that it is the interest of every Colony to cultivate commercial intercourse with the Parent State, and that a total equalization of duties would be at variance with this principle.

7. *Resolved*,—That this House heartily concurs in the expression contained in the 11th paragraph of a Protest made in the British House of Peers on the third reading of the Bill for the repeal of the Corn Laws, which, together with the Address of this House, at its last Session, on the subject of Wheat and Flour, fully embraces and ably advocates the views now entertained by this House on this subject:—" 11. Because the removal of differential duties in favour of Canadian Corn " is at variance with the Legislative encouragement held out to that Colony by Parliament, on the faith of which the Colonists have laid out large sums on the improvement of their internal navigation; and because the removal of protection will " divert the traffic of the interior from the St. Lawrence and the British Ports of " Montreal and Quebec, to the Foreign Port of New York; thus throwing out of " employment a large amount of British Shipping, severing the Commercial " interests of Canada from those of the Parent Country, and connecting those " interests most intimately with the United States of America."

8. *Resolved*,—That the substance of the foregoing Resolutions be embodied in an Address to Her Majesty.